(d) if so, what measures are being taken in regard to these problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b) The Total length of Tripura-Bangladesh border is approximately 856 kilometres and that of Assam-Bangladesh border is approximately 262 kilometres. BSF have been deployed on the border to check infiltration effectively.

(c) and (d) Construction/survey for construction of road along the Tripura-Bangladesh border is progressing. Some observation towers have already been constructed on the Tripura Bangladesh border and some are being constructed.

Memorandum on semi-fascist terror in Tripura

1920. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a copy of the Memorandum submitted by C.P.I. (M) leaders to the President of India detailing out some facts in regard to semi-fascist terror that continued in Tripura from 5th February, 1988 to September, 1989; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a Commission of Inquiry Act to go through each of the incidents of murder, mass-murder rape, gang-rape and torture inside the police lock-up?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the State Government specific cases were registered and investigated in respect of incidents alleged in the Memorandum and action was taken as per law. Accordingly the State Government did not consider it necessary to appoint a Commission of Enquiry.

Employees working in All India Radio Agartala Station (Tripura)

1921. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of officers and employees of All India Radio working in its Agartala (TRIPURA) Station for more than ten years at a stretch;

(b) what are the reasons for which they were not transferred for such a long period; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Agartala Station of All India Radio has now been convered into a wing of Publicity Department of the State Government of Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) As per existing policy, low salaried employees belonging to Group 'C' and 'D' categories, which are normally recruited locally, are not transferred to other stations of All India Radio except at their own request. However, Officers belonging to Group 'A' and 'B' categories have All India transfer liability, subject to exigencies of public service and public interest.

Out of all Group 'A' and 'B' officers working at AIR Agartala, only one officer has worked at the Station for more than 10 years. However, orders tranferring him to another office have since been issued.

(c) No, Sir.

Unroad worthy vehicles in Delhi under the Motor Vehicles Act

1922. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the number of vehicles found unroad worthy on inspection in Delhi during the last six months under the Motor Vehicles Act?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : Delhi Administration have intimated that during last six months (Sept., 89 to February, 90) 70173 vehicles were inspected by the Directorate of Transportation and out of these, 19071 were found unroadworthy.

Statehood to Pondicherry

1923. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to grant statehood to the Union Territory of Pondicherry;

(b) whether it is a fact that all the political parties in the State have demanded statehood and the demand has the support of the people of that State; and

(c) if so, by when the decision for grant of statehood to Pondicherry is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED) : (a) to (c) The Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry has passed Resolution demanding statehood for the Union Territory. The Government of India have noted the Resolution.

U.P. Government on construction near Babri Masjid

1924. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.P. Government has clearly stated that the construction near Babri Masjid is illegal and no permission has been given by the Development Authority to Vishwa Hindu Parishad for construction of Ram Janma Bhoomi temple;

(b) whether as per the Prime Minister's statement a Committee has been set up to go into the dispute relating to the Babri Masjid Ram Janam Bhoomi; and

(c) what action Government have taken in regard to the continued statement by Vishwa Hindu Parishad for construction of Ram Janma Bhoomi temple in the disputed area ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) No such report has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Recently, the Central Government constituted a Committee comprising Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Union Finance Minister, Shri George Fernandes, Union Railway Minister, and Shri Mukhtar Anis, Health Minister of Government of Uttar Pradesh to hold consultations with the various groups to find an amicable solution to the dispute. It is the considered view of the Government that this issue can be resolved in a spirit of mutual accommodation by building a national consensus which is essential for preserving the emotional unity of the country.

Media in Kashmir Valley

1925. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that media in the Kashmir Valley is in bad shape and the 32 vernacular newspapers published from Kashmir Valley suspended their publication because of the repressive measures adopted by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir; and